

Appendix J

RWSP Environmental Mitigation Policies

RWSP Environmental Mitigation Policies

A. Explanatory material. The environmental mitigation policies are intended to guide King County in working with communities to develop mitigation measures for environmental impacts from the construction and operation of wastewater facilities. These policies also ensure that the siting and mitigation processes for wastewater facilities are consistent with the Growth Management Act and the state Environmental Policy Act.

Environmental Mitigation Policies	How Implemented in 2004–2006
<p>EMP-1: King County shall work with affected communities to develop mitigation measures for environmental impacts created by the construction, operation, maintenance, expansion or replacement of regional wastewater facilities. These mitigation measures shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address the adverse environmental impacts caused by the project; 2. Address the adverse environmental impacts identified in the county's environmental documents; and 3. Be reasonable in terms of cost and magnitude as measured against severity and duration of impact. 	<p>During the planning, environmental review, design, and construction of projects, WTD works with permitting and regulatory agencies, local jurisdictions, and affected businesses and residents to determine ways to develop mitigation measures for environmental impacts created by the construction, operation, maintenance, expansion or replacement of regional wastewater facilities.</p> <p>Examples of mitigation related activities that occurred during 2004 through 2006 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brightwater project: In December 2005, the county completed a Brightwater systemwide mitigation package that is the result of many meetings with the public and negotiations with jurisdictions, Tribal governments, and permitting agencies. Some of the mitigation addresses the short-term impacts of construction; other measures are intended to cover longer-term impacts, such as the changes visible facilities like the treatment plant will have on the community landscape. • Hidden Lake Pump Station/Boeing Creek Trunk Sewer Project: An agreement with the City of Shoreline includes mitigation measures related to transportation management; odor control; landscaping, temporary park access during construction, and stormwater and water quality improvements at Shoreview/Boeing Creek Park; a restoration and park access plan for Richmond Beach Saltwater Park; and a pavement restoration plan and pedestrian pathway along the route of the sewer pipe • Juanita Bay Pump Station Replacement Project: Mitigation measures during construction of this project include building sound walls on the portions of the site that are near apartment buildings and condominiums, implementing temporary erosion and sediment control measures, and traffic control measures.
EMP-2: Mitigation measures identified through	This policy is implemented for every project that

Environmental Mitigation Policies	How Implemented in 2004–2006
the state Environmental Policy Act process shall be incorporated into design plans and construction contracts to ensure full compliance.	<p>undergoes the SEPA review process. WTD environmental planners who prepare checklists review construction plans and specifications to make sure mitigation measures are included in these documents.</p> <p>Typical mitigation measures included in State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklists for WTD projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures during project construction • Measures to minimize noise, such as mufflers or sound barriers • Landscaping and architectural features to help facility blend into surrounding area • Actions to minimize light and glare • Construction traffic routing and parking plans.
EMP-3: The siting process and mitigation for new facilities shall be consistent with the Growth Management Act and the state Environmental Policy Act, as well as the lawful requirements and conditions established by the jurisdictions governing the permitting process.	<p>Wastewater treatment facilities are considered essential public facilities under the Growth Management Act. WTD plans new facilities or upgrades to existing facilities to ensure capacity is available when needed.</p> <p>Environmental, community, cost, right-of-way, and regulatory considerations are included in the process to site new wastewater facilities. WTD staff works with permitting agencies and local jurisdictions to ensure projects and facilities comply with applicable requirements and conditions.</p>
EMP-4: King County shall mitigate the long-term and short-term impacts for wastewater facilities in the communities in which they are located. The county's goal will be to construct regional wastewater facilities that enhance the quality of life in the region and in the local community, and are not detrimental to the quality of life in their vicinity.	<p>King County is committed to being a good neighbor with its wastewater facilities.</p> <p>In addition to the kinds of activities mentioned in EMP-1, landscaping and design features help to ensure that the county's wastewater facilities are good neighbors. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The northern 43 acres of the Brightwater Treatment Plant site are being redeveloped as a restored and enhanced salmon habitat and reforestation area. This area will include open space and trails that are accessible to the public and provide visual screening of the treatment plant site. • The design features of the Hidden Lake Pump Station incorporated community concerns that the facility fits into its residential setting. Adjustments include increasing the roof pitch; vegetative screening and landscaping; and building materials, such as tile roof and earth tones for the exterior. • The proposed design for the Juanita Bay Pump Station replacement reduces the building mass to preserve views from neighboring properties and includes

Environmental Mitigation Policies	How Implemented in 2004–2006
<p>EMP-5: King County shall enter into a negotiated mitigation agreement with any community that is adversely impacted by the expansion or addition of major regional wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities. Such agreements shall be executed in conjunction with the project permit review. Mitigation shall be designed and implemented in coordination with the local community, and shall be at least ten percent of the costs associated with the new facilities. For the south treatment plant and for the new north treatment plant, a target for mitigation shall be at least ten percent of individual project costs, or a cumulative total of ten million dollars for each plant, whichever is greater, provided that mitigation funded through wastewater revenues is consistent with: chapter 35.58 RCW; Section 230.10.10 of the King County Charter; agreements for sewage disposal entered into between King County and component agencies; and other applicable county ordinance and state law restrictions.</p>	<p>landscaping for aesthetics and screening. In addition, the facility will include sustainable “green-building” elements.</p> <p>This policy was written with the construction of a new third regional treatment system (now known as the Brightwater Treatment System) and the planned future expansion of the South Plant in mind. The Brightwater systemwide mitigation package that was completed in December 2005 is the result of many meetings with the public and negotiations with jurisdictions, Tribal governments, and permitting agencies. Information on the Brightwater systemwide mitigation package and agreements with local jurisdictions are available at http://dnr.metrokc.gov/WTD/brightwater/mitigation/index.htm</p>